

Jeremiah Chastain Farm (Tract #2607A)
.4 miles north on road .4 miles east of Tebo Church
Clinton Vicinity
Henry County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1230

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MO-1230

JEREMIAH CHASTAIN FARM (Tract #2607-A)

Location: 4 miles north on road .4 miles east of Tebo Church, approximately 12 miles east of Clinton, Clinton Vicinity, Henry County, Missouri.

USGS Leesville Quadrangle UTM Coordinates
15.451660.4246020.

Present Owner: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District.

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: The Jeremiah Chastain house is a fine illustration of the basic saddlebag "L" plan house so common in the survey area. A root cellar and barn complete the farm complex.

PART I. HISTORIC INFORMATION

A. Physical history:

1. Date of erection: circa 1870-1880.
2. Original and subsequent owners: SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SW 1/4 Section 2 Township 41 N Range 24 W. George Young entered the land January 6, 1855; to Jeremiah Chastain, September 16, 1856 (H:37); to his widow, Tabitha Young Chastain, May 5, 1886 (90:247).
3. Original plan and construction: Originally a two room, double entrance one-story saddlebag of two rooms, one on either side of a central chimney. The exterior was painted white with green trim.
4. Alterations and additions: As with the majority of L plan houses in the survey area, this one was the result of an addition to an existing rectangular structure. The third (north) room was added before 1915.

B. Historical Events and Persons:

Jeremiah Chastain came to Henry County from Tennessee in the early 1850s. He married Tabitha Young, and from her father bought the land where they made their home until Mrs. Chastain died in 1918. In 1977, their granddaughter, Ada Pollock, remembered her grandparents' house and remarked: "Why, it was a fine house; it had three rooms!"

C. Sources of Information:

1. Primary and unpublished sources: Plat book A, Deed books H:37, 90:247, 324:321 in the Registry of Deeds, Henry County Courthouse, Clinton. United States Census for 1860, 1870 and 1880.
2. Interview: July 29, 1977, Ada Pollock, RFD 2, Clinton. Granddaughter of Jeremiah Chastain.
3. Secondary sources: Clinton Eye, April 24, 1897: "Young family reunion." November 3, 1915: "Tabitha Chastain's eightieth birthday."

Prepared by Paul Garfield Weed
Historian
Historic American Buildings
Survey
Summer 1977

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Good example of a saddlebag L-plan house; the centrally placed front chimney and two front doors are typical features of this type. The rear wing was a later addition.
2. Condition of fabric: Very poor; house has been vacant for many years and has recently been used as a barn.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: This one-story L-plan house has a four-bay front, 30'3" wide, by 28'4" deep.
2. Foundations: Stone perimeter beam on grade, about 10" high.
3. Wall construction: Horizontal wood siding over balloon framing.
4. Structural system: Balloon framing, with joists and rafters spanning the shorter dimension.
5. Porches: Small concrete porch in front of both front doors.
6. Chimneys: One interior brick stove chimney between the two front rooms, and one interior brick end chimney, also for a stove, in the center of the rear wall of the rear wing.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: None remaining.
 - b. Windows: The window on the west end of the west front room has a sawtooth decoration on the lintel. Windows had four-over-four lights and double hung wood sash.
8. Roof: The gable roof of the front portion is intersected by the gable roof of the rear wing. The ridge of the rear wing is slightly lower than the ridge of the front portion. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles over wood shingles.

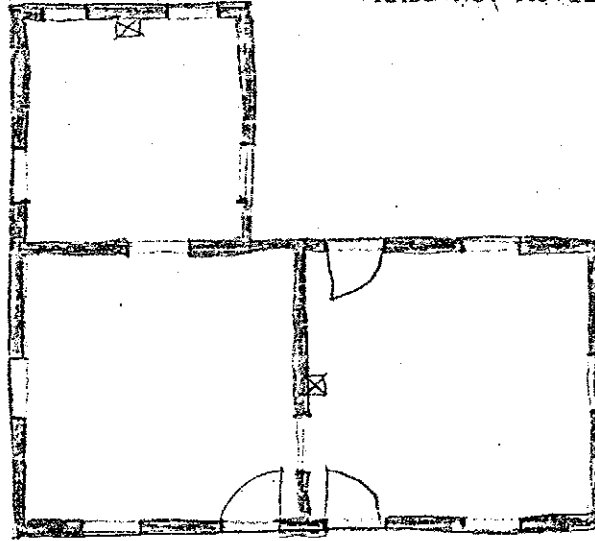
C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The house has three rooms all on one floor arranged in an L shape. The two front rooms, each with its own front door, face south. A door just inside the front doors joins these two rooms. North of the west room is the rear room, which was an addition. The wood siding on the exterior north wall of the front portion continues inside this rear room, and shingles on the roof continue under the roof of the rear wing.
2. Flooring: 3 1/4" wide tongue-and-groove wood flooring.
3. Wall & ceiling finish: Wallpaper over plaster on wood lath.

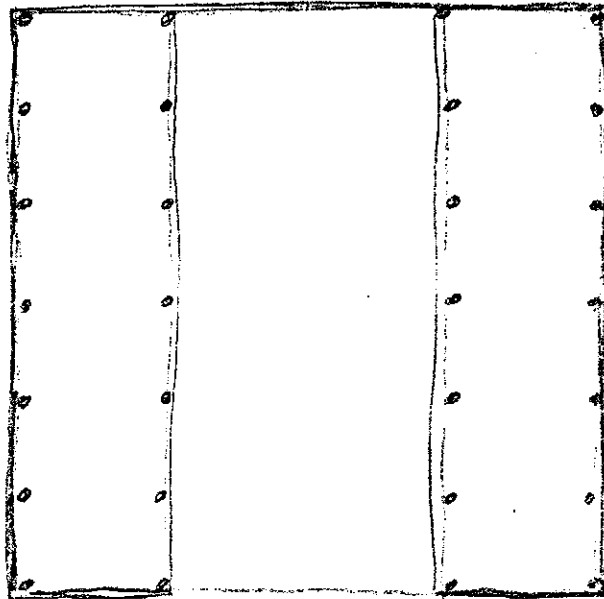
D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The house faces south. It is approached across an open field by a trail, as the road no longer exists.
2. Outbuildings: There is a concrete lined root cellar behind the house. A three-aisle barn faces south to the west of the house. It is 36' wide x 36' long, six bays deep. The interior vertical members are stripped logs about 15" in diameter. The posts are set directly into the ground with no foundation. The gable roof is covered with green asphalt shingles. The vertical planks of the siding vary in width from 9" to 12".

Prepared by William Brookover
Project Supervisor
Historic American Buildings
Survey
Summer, 1977



FLOOR PLAN # 2607-A



BARN PLAN # 2607-A

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Truman Reservoir Project was funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, in compliance with Executive Order 11593 as a mitigative effort in the construction of the Harry S. Truman Dam and Reservoir, in the summer of 1977. William Brookover (Columbia University), supervisor; Michael Connor (University of Virginia), team foreman; Gary Baker (Catholic University), Edwin Daniel (Mississippi State), and Gary Statkus (University of Illinois), student architects; Paul Weed (Columbia University), architectural historian.